

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Jean-François GONTHIER)
) Group Art Unit 3728
Appln. No. : 09/835,638)
) Examiner Not Yet Known
Filed : April 17, 2001)
)
For : BINDING FOR RETAINING A BOOT ON)
A GLIDING OR ROLLING APPARATUS)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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JUL 23 2001

TO 3600 MAIL ROOM

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JUL 19 2001

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR 1.56 and in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the following information is brought to the attention of the Examiner for his or her consideration during the examination of the instant application.

The following materials were cited in a search report in the French priority application upon which the instant application is based. A copy of the search report and a copy of an annex thereto, indicating "family member" documents, are attached.

For compliance with the "concise explanation" requirement set forth in 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3), consistent with U.S. Patent and Trademark Office policy, Applicant describes below any comments relating to pertinent portions of the respective documents, where such comments appear in the search report.

European Patent Publication No. 0 958 846 (HUNZIKER), published on November 24, 1999, is cited as being a document that is particularly pertinent (i.e., a category "X" document)

with regard to the invention recited in claims 1-5 of Applicant's aforementioned priority application. Column 8, lines 32-47 of EP '846 are cited as being pertinent.

French Patent Publication No. 2 774 302 (SALOMON S.A.), published on August 6, 1999, is cited as being a document that is pertinent to the general state of the art (i.e., a category "A" document) with regard to the invention recited in claim 1 of Applicant's aforementioned priority application. The entirety of FR '302 is cited as being pertinent.

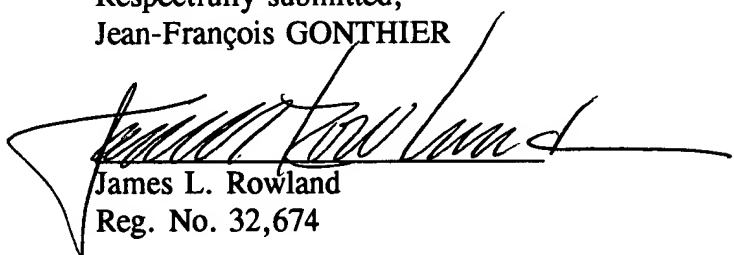
Copies of English language translations of the abstracts of EP '846 and FR '302, obtained from the internet website of the European Patent Office are attached.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98 and MPEP 609, a copy of each of the above-mentioned documents is enclosed herewith. Further, each is listed on the attached PTO-1449 form to permit the Examiner to indicate his or her consideration thereof.

The Examiner is requested to consider the documents cited above and to confirm such consideration by appropriately initialling the listings on the PTO-1449 form and returning a copy of the initialled form to Applicant.

Any comments or questions concerning this application can be directed to the undersigned at the telephone or fax number given below.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean-François GONTHIER



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July 17, 2001
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